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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 7937.0002-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Samuel BENDINELLI et al.)
Serial No.: 09/832,363) Group Art Unit: Unknown
Filed: April 11, 2001) Examiner: Unknown
For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR)
HAIRPINS IN VIRTUAL)
NETWORKS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please replace the first paragraph with the following:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/196,297, entitled "NETWORK ARCHITECTURE, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS," filed on April 12, 2000, the disclosure of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/814,178, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING AND CONFIGURING VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS," filed March 22, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002, which is also expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The present invention